

REMARKS

The applicant's attorney conducted an interview with Examiner Miller and Supervisory Examiner McAllister to discuss the Kutt patent in view of the pending claims. An interview summary has been filed.

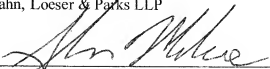
With respect to claim 1, the Applicant has amended this claim to clarify that the step of maintaining is performed during the step of adding. The Applicant believes that this claim is distinguishable from the Kutt patent, which only describes providing pressurized air into the room temporarily to test for leaks. Kutt does not disclose maintaining an overpressure during operation as an altitude simulator.

The Applicant submits that the Kutt "Colorado Room" is typical of the prior art, as described in the background of the invention, in that it relates to providing a sealed room in order to maintain its desired oxygen levels for purposes of simulating a high altitude. The Applicant's invention improves upon Kutt by allowing adjustment of the room air constituents in an unsealed room significantly reducing the cost and complexity in comparison to sealed room systems, like Kutt. Moreover, Kutt describes simulating altitude in a single room, and does not describe separation of ambient air to maintain a relatively low oxygen content in a first room and a relatively high oxygen content in a second room. To that end, the Applicant has provided new claims 19 and 20. Claim 19 is an independent claim directed to the feature of providing first and second rooms and includes the step of separating air such that the first room is maintained at a relatively low oxygen content while the second room is maintained at a relatively high oxygen content relative to ambient air.

Claim 20 is an independent claim directed to a method of adjusting room air and includes the step of providing an unsealed room and maintaining at least a slight over pressure in the unsealed room and adding nitrogen or a carbon dioxide-poor mixture to adjust the level of oxygen within the unsealed room.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicant believes that claims 1-14 and 19-20 are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests notice of the same.

Respectfully submitted,
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